



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS COLE (DDG 67)
FPO AE 09566-1285

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CSO
12 Mar 06

From: Commanding Officer, USS COLE (DDG 67)
To: Naval Historical Center, 805 Kidder Breese Street SE,
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5060

Subj: USS COLE (DDG 67) COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDER YEAR 2005

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12J

Encl: (1) USS COLE (DDG 67) Command History for 2005
(2) Photo and Biography of Commanding Officer
(3) Photo of USS COLE (DDG 67)
(4) Copy of USS COLE Decklog Entry for 31 December 2005

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are submitted
for COLE's Command History for calendar year 2005 (UIC 21941).

P. J. KNITTLE
By Direction

COMMAND HISTORY 2005
USS COLE (DDG 67)

Homeport: Norfolk, VA
Commissioned: 08 June 1996
UIC: 21941

Command Composition and Organization

Immediate Superior:

Commander, Destroyer Squadron TWO
CAPT Gregory S. Cruze, USN
01 JAN 05 - 20 SEP 05

CAPT Clifford S. Sharpe, USN
20 SEP 05 - 31 DEC 05

Commanding Officer:

CDR Brian A. Solo, USN
01 JAN 05 - 16 DEC 06

CDR Bradley W. Roberson, USN
16 DEC 05 - 31 DEC 05

Executive Officer:

LCDR Keith Payne, USN
01 JAN 05 - 14 OCT 05

LCDR Rodney Daniels, USN
14 OCT 05 - 31 DEC 05

JANUARY 2005

01 JAN - 06 JAN	HOLIDAY STAND-DOWN
10 JAN - 14 JAN	UNDERWAY FOR CICTT-2/MOBD-3 DC RIP/MOBS-2
11 JAN	5"/CIWS PACFIRE
12 JAN	DECK LANDING QUALIFICATIONS (HELO?)
13 JAN	UNDERWAY REPLENISHMENT WITH USNS LARAMIE
14 JAN	TOW/BE TOWED WITH USS MCFAUL
18 JAN	MARTIN LUTHER KING CEREMONY
19 JAN	BEST SHIPS STORE AWARD
20 JAN	E-6 EXAM
21 JAN	IT2 HERSEY REENLISTMENT
21 JAN	STG1 SLINDE RETIREMENT
25 JAN - 28 JAN	UNDERWAY FOR MOBE-4
26 JAN	TACTAS STREAM
28 JAN	HT3 Thorpe Advancement Ceremony

The first week after Holiday Stand-down, COLE was underway for UD preparations. COLE completed all of the Damage Control requirements for UD. The Small Craft Action Team (SCAT) demonstrated its proficiency with a remote controlled jet-ski and towed sled. COLE also completed Deck Landing Qualification and a 5" and CIWS Pre-Aim Calibration. On the morning of 14 Jan, COLE participated in complex tow and be towed qualification. COLE was towed by the USS MCFAUL, executing a flawless hook-up, however with

decreasing visibility and rough seas; COLE was not able to tow USS MCFAUL. On January 18th, crewmembers participated in a ceremony on the mess-decks paying tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. With LTjg Bralyn Cathey's reenactment of the "I have a dream" speech and BM3 Harris and SN Culver's singing, it was an extremely moving ceremony. On 19 January, DESRON 2 was onboard to present the Supply department with the best ships store award. The week concluded with the reenlistment of IT2 Hersey's and the retirement of STG1 Slinde. On 25 Jan, COLE got underway in support of MOBE-3, running multiple engineering scenarios to prepare for Underway Demonstration. The morning of 26 Jan, the Sonar Technicians completed a Tactical Towed Array Stream for maintenance and training.

FEBRUARY 2005

01 FEB - 04 FEB	ITT WEEK
03 FEB	FINAL EVALUATION PROBLEM
07 FEB - 11 FEB	UNDERWAY VCOA
08 FEB	UNREP WITH USNS SUPPLY
10 FEB - 11 FEB	ANCHORED, CHESAPEAKE LIGHT
11 FEB	UNDERWAY DEMONSTRATION
14 FEB - 16 FEB	BRIDGE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
16 FEB	CMTQ FINAL BATTLE PROBLEM
17 FEB - 18 FEB	UNDERWAY CDS2 GROUP SAIL
17 FEB	TACTICAL MANUEVERING OF SHIPS
17 FEB	ACTIVE/PASSIVE EMATT TRACKEX
17 FEB	EMCON DRILL
17 FEB	ADEX
18 FEB	5" PACFIRE
18 FEB	TACTICAL MANUEVERING OF SHIPS
23 FEB	AWARDS CEREMONY
25 FEB	MACEDONIAN DIGNITARY TOUR
28 FEB	C4I FAST CRUISE

The month of February began with ITT Week. COLE prepared with multiple scenarios to train for the upcoming battle problem. On FEB 3rd, COLE proved her proficiency to ATG during the Final Battle Problem. COLE performed brilliantly passing FEP and receiving certification in all warfare areas. The week of 7-11 FEB was spent

preparing for the upcoming Underway Demonstration. With the enthusiasm of the engineers and support from a great crew, Engineering certified during UD. With only one area, left to certify, COLE's STRIKE team prepared rigorously and passed CMTQ on 16 February. With all certifications achieved, COLE was ready to get underway with DESRON 2 to make preparations for the upcoming COMCARSTRKGRU 12 Group Sail. During these two days of underway, COLE maximized training and proficiency. During the Tactical Maneuvering of Ships, COLE operated with USS WINSTON S. CHURCHILL, USS CARR, USS MCFAUL, USS PORTER, USS ARLEIGH BURKE. COLE then began its EMCON Drills, transitioning from non-restrictive emission control, to the maximum emission control with ease and efficiency. During the Active/Passive EMATT Trackex, COLE acted as SAU Commander and direct USS PORTER and USS ARLEIGH BURKE in the prosecution of a live ASW target. COLE also participated in an Air Defense Exercise (ADEX) directing the maneuvering of numerous aircraft. In the evening, COLE again utilized TEAM SONAR in the deployment of the Tactical Towed Array System (TACTAS). The morning of the 18th, began with a 5 inch PACFIRE, completed in less than 2 minutes. The rest of the morning was spent again practicing the tactical maneuvering of ships. By afternoon, DESRON 2 completed the training and COLE returned to Norfolk Naval Station. Upon arrival, the crew was awarded a much deserved 96-hour liberty,

as a reward for their hard work and dedication while completing the basic phase of training.

MARCH 2005

03 MAR - 08 MAR	UNDERWAY CCSG12/CDS2 GROUP SAIL
03 MAR	NAVYWIDE E-6 EXAMINATION
03 MAR	SMALL BOAT ATTACK
03 MAR	EW EXERCISE CRAZYHORSE
04 MAR	SLAMEX
04 MAR	OPPOSED RAS
04 MAR	SUBMARINE FAMILIARIZATION
05 MAR	C4I PACKAGE
05 MAR	TACTICAL MANEUVERING OF SHIPS
05 MAR	ASW VECTAC EVENT
05 MAR	ASW PASSIVE TRACKING EXERCISE
05 MAR	IW TRAINING
06 MAR	SLAMEX
06 MAR	TACTICAL MANEUVERING OF SHIPS
06 MAR	PHOTOEX
06 MAR	ASW ACTIVE/PASSIVE TRACKING EXERCISE
06 MAR	CHOKEPOINT TRANSIT
07 MAR	SLAMEX
07 MAR	SMALL BOAT TRANSFER WITH SUBMARINE
07 MAR	ASW EXERCISE
07 MAR	LONG RANGE ENCOUNTEREX
07 MAR	UNDERWAY REPLENISHMENT WITH USNS KANAWA
08 MAR	TACTICAL MANEUVERING OF SHIPS

08 MAR	TOWEX WITH USS MCFAUL
08 MAR	RETURN TO HOMEPORT
10 MAR	NAVYWIDE E-5 EXAMINATION
10 MAR	AWARDS CEREMONY
14 MAR	CMAV
17 MAR	NAVYWIDE E-4 EXAMINATION
19 MAR	MA1 PEARSALL RETIREMENT CEREMONY
22 MAR	SHIP'S STORE BEST IN CLASS AWARD PRESENTATION
25 MAR	EN1 NORWOOD'S REENLISTMENT
25 MAR	PN2 VERMILLION REENLISTMENT
29 MAR	OS2 HERRINGTON'S REENLISTMENT
30 MAR	BM3 BELYEU'S REELISTMENT
30 MAR	BM3 VITELA'S REENLISTMENT

March was a busy month for COLE and the crew was underway working up for BALTOPS '05. During this time, COLE participated in many evolutions to sharpen the skills of the crew in their respective warfare areas. The crew successfully showed their seamanship and tactical skills during a small boat attack, SLAMEX, opposed RAS, ASW events, tactical maneuvering evolution, PHOTOEX, and TOWEX. March was also a month of activity and promotional opportunity for the crew as well. Junior sailors were given the opportunity to advance during their respective examinations throughout the month. Crewmembers were acknowledged for their efforts and

hard work during an awards ceremony as well as the re-enlistment of five sailors. The ship's store was recognized for its outstanding work with a "Best in Class" ship's store award.

APRIL 2005

04 APRIL - 8 APRIL	NSFS TEAM TRAINER
06 APRIL	HELO FIREFIGHTING TEAM TRAINER
06 APRIL	LTJG SOLIS AND LTJG LAPAGLIA RECEIVE SWO QUALIFICATION
07 APRIL	USS COLE HOSTS CDS2 CO'S ASW ROUNDTABLE MEETING
08 APRIL	CNSL CPO GOLF TOURNAMENT
12 APRIL	CSC WAPLES/CS1 ODEN REELISTMENT
15 APRIL	ICC ANDERSON REELISTMENT
18 APRIL	AVIATION CERTIFICATION
20 APRIL	HELO FIREFIGHTING EVALUATION
20 APRIL	PIERSIDE AMMUNITION ONLOAD
21 APRIL	SLAMEX
25 APRIL - 26 APRIL	PRE-DEPLOYMENT BRIEFS
25 APRIL - 28 APRIL	ANTI-TERRORISM FORCE PROTECTION CERTIFICATION

April started off with the crew preparing for its Aviation Certification by attending fire-fighting school. Two weeks later, COLE passed the certification exam and was re-qualified for flight deck operations. LTjg Solis and LTjg Lapaglia received their SWO pins and three sailors re-enlisted. DESRON TWO held the ASW roundtable meeting onboard COLE, in preparation for BALTOPS '05. The Chief's Mess enjoyed a day of golfing at the CNSL CPO Golf

Tournament. The Tomahawk team honed their skills during a SLAMEX's and the ATFP team was certified late in the month. COLE made its last preparations for BALTOPS '05, ready to get underway in May.

MAY 2005

2 MAY - 4 MAY	U/W NSFS
6 MAY	OPEN HOUSE FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY
9 MAY	SAFETY SURVEY
10 MAY - 12 MAY	AMMUNITION ONLOAD, YORKTOWN
20 MAY	UNDERWAY, TRANSLANT TO BALTOPS 2005
20 MAY	UNDERWAY REPLENISHMENT WITH USNS JOHN LENTHALL
21 MAY	DIVTACS
21 MAY	ADEX
23 MAY	OFFICER PROMOTION LTJG HAGER AND LTJG RORABAUGH
23 MAY	ADEX
24 MAY	FLASHING LIGHT/FLAGHOIST/SEMAPHORE EXERCISE
25 MAY	QUICKDRAW—MOB RECOVERY DRILLS WITH USS MCFAUL
25 MAY	DIVTACS WITH USS ANZIO, USS ARLEIGH BURKE, USS MCFAUL AND USS TORTUGA
26 MAY	VBSS BOARDING EXERCISES WITH USS TORTUGA
26 MAY	EMATT/REXTORP

26 MAY	CROSSDECK OPERATIONS WITH USS ANZIO, USS ARLEIGH BURKE, USS MCFAUL AND USS TORTUGA
27 MAY	SMALL ARMS FAMILIARIZATION FIRING
27 MAY	DIVTACS WITH USS ANZIO, USS ARLEIGH BURKE, USS MCFAUL AND USS TORTUGA
27 MAY	5 INCH PACFIRE
27 MAY	DECK LANDING QUALIFICATIONS
27 MAY	ADEX

On May 20th USS COLE along with USS ANZIO, USS ARLEIGH BURKE and USS TORTUGA departed Norfolk, VA for operations across the Atlantic. The first day out was a busy day with a 5 inch and CIWS Pacfire following Sea and Anchor as well as the group's first underway replenishment during this transit. The following day, the ship began its normal underway routine, completing non-maneuvering divisional tactics with the USS TORTUGA AND USS MCFAUL. Later that evening, our Air Warfare Coordinators participated in an Air Defense exercise, defending the ship from multiple threat aircraft. On Sunday, May 22nd the ship participated in Man Overboard Drills, practicing shipboard recovery operations. Two junior officers onboard USS COLE were promoted from Ensign to Lieutenant Junior Grade, LTjg Bradley Hager and LTjg Brandi Rorabaugh on May 23rd.

JUNE 2005

04 JUN - 16 JUN	BALTOPS 05
31 MAY - 02 JUN	SLAMEX
31 MAY - 05 JUN	PORT VISIT: VENTSPILS, LATVIA
13 JUN	VBSS Boarding of M/V Eugene A. Obregon
14 JUN - 16 JUN	SLAMEX
15 JUN - 19 JUN	PORT VISIT: KIEL, GERMANY
18 JUN - 29 JUN	TRANSIT TO CONUS (PHILADELPHIA, PA)
21 JUN - 23 JUN	SLAMEX
28 JUN - 30 JUN	ARRIVE PHILADELPHIA, PA
28 JUN - 30 JUN	SLAMEX
29 JUN - 05 JUL	INPORT PHILADELPHIA, PA

COLE pulled into Philadelphia for the "Let Freedom Ring" concert on July 4th weekend. The ship was escorted up the Delaware River by 5 Black Hawk helicopters, Philadelphia Fire Department tugs spraying red, white, and blue water, and the battleship NEW JERSEY firing its Saluting Battery. The crew participated in the "Let Freedom Ring" celebration at Independence Hall and 2 parades. They were afforded the opportunity to attend a Philadelphia Phillies game, during which CDR Solo threw out the first pitch and the color guard participated in the National Anthem. The crew was given a tour the NEW JERSEY and attended the Live 8 concert. The CO

and XO met with the mayor and the Ship hosted a ceremony on the flight deck for the "Sons of the American Revolution" (organized the "Let Freedom Ring" Ceremony), and Philadelphia Navy League.

JULY 2005

29 JUN - 05 JUL	INPORT PHILADELPHIA, PA
05 JUL	DEPART PHILADELPHIA, PA
06 JUL	ARRIVE NORFOLK, VA
07 JUL	SLAMEX
07 JUL - 10 JUL	CREW HOLIDAY
11 JUL - 12 JUL	LINK MITE
11 JUL - 12 JUL	NSFS REFRESHER
13 JUL	COLE King's Dominion Day
14 JUN - 19 JUN	UNDERWAY FOR HST SUSTAINMENT SUPPORT
14 JUL	SLAMEX
20 JUL - 21 JUL	UNDERWAY IMPASS
21 JUL	SLAMEX
28 JUL	ASW MITE
29 JUL	FCC GUNSHER RETIREMENT

Upon return home from Philadelphia, the COLE crew was given a well deserved long weekend after nearly two months away from their families. Families and friends of COLE's crew had a special day at King's Dominion to enjoy the rides and thrills of the theme park. On July 14th, COLE made preparations and got underway to support the HARRY S. TRUMAN STRIKE GROUP in qualifying their flight crews. COLE performed flawlessly as "plane-guard" during flight

operations. During the underway, COLE re-qualified its 5" Naval Gun team during IMPASS. To close out the month of July, members of the crew attended FCC(SW) Gunsher's retirement ceremony. It was a bittersweet goodbye for many as FCC(SW) Gunsher was a well respected and loved member of the crew.

AUGUST 2005

1 AUG - 2 AUG	LINK MITE
3 AUG - 4 AUG	CDS2 MOCK TRAINING ASSESMENT
3 AUG	SLAMEX
10 AUG	COLE CREW HOLIDAY TO KINGS DOMINION
11 AUG	COMMANDER, STRIKE GROUP 12 COC
15 AUG - 25 AUG	U/W FOR NASSAU ESGEX OPPOSING FORCES SUPPORT
26 AUG	COLE CREW HOLIDAY TO OCEAN BREEZE WATER PARK
30 AUG - 31 AUG	AFLOAT TRAINING GROUP TRAINING ASSESMENT

COLE began August preparing for an Afloat Training Group Training Assessment by doing a practice Training Assessment with DESRON TWO. The COLE MWR staff set up another COLE CREW DAY and King's Dominion. On the 11th of August, COLE's ISIC had a change of command, during which RDML Raymond Spicer took over as COMANDER, CARRIER STRIKE GROUP TWELVE. COLE got underway for ten days in August to play "opposing forces", helping the NASSAU STRIKE GROUP prepare for an up-coming deployment. COLE took part in various scenarios and received high marks on her training effectiveness. Upon return to Norfolk, the crew had a COLE DAY at Ocean Breeze Water Park, courtesy of the MWR representatives. COLE closed out

August by setting the standard for the Atlantic Fleet on the Afloat Training Group Training Assessment, by scoring a 98%. COLE's score was the highest mark on a ATG TA yet.

SEPTEMBER 2005

05 SEP	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
08 SEP	SLAMEX
13 SEP - 15 SEP	LINK MITE AND VISEX
15 SEP	SLAMEX
16 SEP	POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY
16 SEP	CPO PINNING
20 SEP	CDS2 CHANGE OF COMMAND ONBOARD USS COLE
22 SEP	ASW MITE
26 SEP - 29 SEP	COMMANDING OFFICER UNDERWAY TIME FOR TRANSIT TO SAVANNAH, GA
30 SEP	INPORT OF SAVANNA, GA

The highlight onboard COLE during the month of September was welcoming nine new members into the Chief Petty Officer community. The Chief's Mess hosted a ceremony for their new compatriots, presenting the new members with their Chief's Anchors and new covers. COLE was also honored as the host for the Destroyer Squadron Two Change of Command. Commodore Cruze was honored for his time as DESRON TWO and Captain Sharpe was welcomed with due regards. To close out the month, COLE got underway to Savannah, Georgia for a port visit and town celebration.

OCTOBER 2005

29 SEP - 05 OCT	INPORT OF SAVANNAH, GA
06 OCT - 07 OCT	UNDERWAY TRANSIT TO NORFOLK
10 OCT	COLUMBUS DAY
11 OCT - 13 OCT	WISE MITE
12 OCT	USS COLE MEMORIAL CEREMONY
13 OCT	SLAMEX
14 OCT	RDML SPICER, ENTSTKGR, VISIT TO USS COLE
17 OCT	WINTER UNIFORM SHIFT
17 OCT	PIERSIDE AMMUNITION ONLOAD
21 OCT	INDUSTRIAL COLLEGE OF THE ARMED FORCES SHIP VISIT
24 OCT - 28 OCT	COMMANDING OFFICER'S UNDERWAY TIME

The USS COLE was welcomed by Savannah's community by numerous events. During transition, Fort Jackson rendered honors to the Cole by firing off their cannons. Once pulled into Savannah, the crew participated in many Oktoberfest events. COLE crew was involved with numerous volunteer work project such as house painting events, helping support a children's play area, and preservation of Ft Jackson. Savannah's Navy League held a reception for dignified members its League along with select members of the Crew to strengthen the ties between active duty and retired military

families. On the 12th of October, the crew gathered at the USS COLE Memorial at Naval Station, Norfolk for a ceremony in memory of the attack on the ship in 2000 in Aden, Yemen. Former crewmembers and family members of the seventeen sailors who died in the attacks attended the ceremony. The crew paid tribute to its fallen shipmates through a wreath laying ceremony, a twenty-one rifle salute, and Taps played by a Marine Corps bugler.

November 2005

3 NOV	SLAMEX
7 NOV	SNA SOCIAL
7 NOV - 9 NOV	LINK/COMMS/GCCS MITE
10 NOV	CDS2 LUNCHEON
10 NOV	SLAMEX
12 NOV	CNSL BOY SCOUT TOUR
14 NOV	NJROTC TOUR
14 NOV - 2 DEC	6A1 CMAV
17 NOV	SLAMEX
19 NOV	ENS GIORDANO AND ENS SHAVER RECEIVE SWO PINS
21 NOV - 25 NOV	INTEL/EW MITE
22 NOV	SAFETY STAND-DOWN
24 NOV	THANKSGIVING
28 NOV - 4 DEC	TRIDENT WARRIOR IN-PORT PHASE

November started off with Strike Division proving their skills through completing another successful SLAMEX. COLE's communications, GCCS-M, and Link capabilities were flexed and proven by a MITE, thanks to the hard work of Combat Systems and Operations Departments. The CDS2 Luncheon was a great session for communicating COLE's successes and priorities to the CDS2 Staff. Ensigns Giordano and Shaver both became full-fledged Surface Warfare Officers on the 19th of November by receiving their pins.

The 22nd of November brought the COLE Crew a well-deserved stand-down session to enjoy Thanksgiving with family and friends. After our break, COMMO and the IT's were busy with an in-depth Trident Warrior install, updating our ship for future communication developments.

December 2005

1 DEC	ASW MITE
1 DEC	ESG AIR DEFENSE SYNDICATE
2 DEC	COLE FAMILY HOLIDAY PARTY
3 DEC	COLE HOLIDAY PARTY
5 DEC - 9 DEC	TRIDENT WARRIOR UNDERWAY PHASE
8 DEC	SLAMEX
16 DEC	USS COLE CHANGE OF COMMAND
17 DEC - 8 JAN	HOLIDAY STAND-DOWN LEAVE
20 DEC - 21 DEC	NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FILMING OF COLE

Rolling into the December month, COLE participated in an ASW MITE where our Anti-Submarine mission planning abilities were tested and proven more than satisfactory. Our Air Defense personnel were busy at a syndicate: learning, discussing, and improving our air defense strategies. COLE celebrated the holiday season with our families on ice at the Chilled Ponds ice-skating rink. The following night was a dinner and party for the crew and their spouses/significant others with dancing, prizes, and fun for all. After a short underway, CDR Roberson, USN, was instated as the new Commanding Officer of COLE, with a formal ceremony and reception. COLE was looking her best, displaying a perfect example of naval traditions and the future of the Fleet. After the ceremony, the crew was put on holiday stand-down to spend the holidays with families and enjoy their time off. During Stand-down, National

Geographic visited the COLE to film a documentary about our famous ship; emphasizing our full recovery and functionality for the world to see.